

Perspective

Author reflects on meaning of holiday

You'll find them in most cemeteries. They are simple marble footstones, engraved with a cross and the name of one who has served his country. It is a simple way of remembering those who gave of themselves in support of freedom.

The memory of fallen heroes is, unfortunately, as old as the hills, because as long as the hills have stood, mankind has gone off to battle and soldiers have fallen in the fight. In this nation, we had fought several wars before the idea of a Memorial Day became a reality.

In 1868, the first national memorial occasion was observed, though Southern women in several Dixie states had been remembering their dead for years. Each Spring, flowers were placed on the graves of Civil War dead. The Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of veterans of the Union Army, asked its members to do the same on May 30, 1868. General James A. Garfield, later to become President, spoke at the first Memorial Day service, held at Arlington National Cemetery, which had been established four years earlier.

Speaking of those who had died, Garfield said, "We do not know one promise these men made, one pledge they gave, one word they spoke; but we do know they summed up and perfected, by one supreme act, the highest virtues of men and citizens. For love of country, they accepted death and thus resolved all doubts and made immortal their patriotism and virtue."

Those who laid the flowers on the fresh graves that day are themselves long gone. And we have seen other generations caught in the savagery of too many other wars. What began as the memorial to the fallen heroes of one war is now our day to honor the memory of casualties of all our wars.

This isn't the time for statistics, but there is one figure that deserves to be remembered. More than half a million Americans have died in battle since the beginning of the Civil



War, and more than half of those have been killed since 1940. Thousands more have been scarred for life, either physically or mentally. This is why a single day of remembering should be so important to us all.

In earlier times, this day was more popularly known as Decoration Day because it was observed by decorating the graves with flowers or flags. That tradition of leaving a symbol is still a strong one. But our emphasis today should be in remembering the supreme sacrifice so many made in the service of our country.

And as we are reminded of past sacrifices, we must be inspired to remember what we have to day because so many were willing to risk their lives to protect our heritage.

The words of General John Logan, Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his first call for the observance of Memorial Day in 1868, are as eloquent and meaningful today. "Let no ravages of time testify to coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided Republic." And President Lincoln, speaking at a related occasion, reminded us, "That we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain."

Memorial Day is no longer celebrated May 30, but rather the last Monday in May. This gives many a long week-end, which may or may not add to our memorial to the dead. Regardless of the uncertain date of Memorial Day, we must all hope that future memorials will be to peace rather than war.

Geritol on the rocks

I recently received a letter from a friend which contained a list of ways I can continue to tell I'm aging without gazing into a mirror or checking the calendar on the wall. It brought a few smiles and a nod of agreement, so I'm going to pass it along to you today!

You Know You're Getting Old When...

You feel like the morning after and you haven't been anywhere

You sit down in a rocking chair and can't get it started

You order Geritol-on-the rocks at the bars

Your back goes out more than you do

Your little black book has only last names ending with "M.D."

You need oxygen after blowing out your birthday candles

You get worn out dialing long distance

Your favorite newspaper column is "25 Years Ago"

You need a fire permit to light all the candles on your birthday cake

It takes an hour to undress and another hour to remember why

You burn the midnight oil by 9:00 P.M.

You get your exercise by being a pailbearer for a friend who exercised

Your knees buckle and your belt won't

Anything under a quarter isn't worth bending over and picking it up

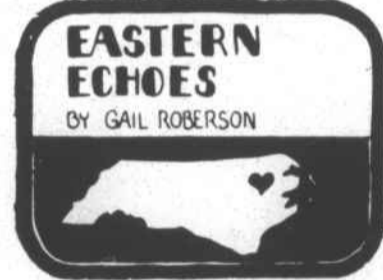
Your pacemaker opens the garage door whenever you see a sexy girl go by

You get winded playing checkers

You sink your teeth into a thick, juicy steak and they stay there

The only whistles you get are from the tea kettle

You need a smaller house with a bigger medicine cabinet



Work becomes more fun and fun becomes more work

The gleam in your eyes is the sun reflecting off your bifocals

A dripping faucet causes an uncontrolled bladder urge

You forget what happened yesterday, but can easily remember events 40 years ago

Your children begin to look middle-aged

You finally get to the top of the ladder but it's leaning against the wrong wall

You regret all the times you resisted temptation

You look forward to spending a quiet evening at home

Your mind makes agreements your body can't meet

You start eating Bran Flakes and Prune Juice for breakfast

You remember today that yesterday was your birthday

You buy a health club membership and don't go

You have more hair on your chest than you have on your head

After painting the town red, you have to wait a long time before applying a second coat

That little old lady you helped across the street is your wife

and

Everything hurts, and what doesn't hurt...doesn't work.

SHOCKED?

Your first electric shock is a WARNING. The next one could be FATAL. STOP using the product. Have it checked and fixed. Fixing your own appliances can be risky. Always handle electricity with care.

ELECTRICITY. HANDLE WITH CARE

Business Builders

If you are a new business or a business who does not advertise frequently You can advertise weekly for as little as

\$1.50 Weekly for 52 Weeks

\$2.00 Weekly for 26 Weeks

\$2.50 Weekly for 13 Weeks

(Copy Changes Will Be Once A Week)

Call Anzie at 426-5728



Girls, it's berry time again and with a little effort you can "put up" your own preserves.

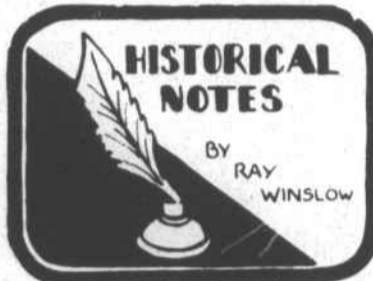
CHRIS KORNEGAY

White, instrumental in founding of Winfall

One of the men most instrumental in the founding of the town of Winfall was Josiah H. White. White was born in Perquimans County on July 1, 1863, and he died there on May 26, 1895.

White was married at least three times; first, in May 1849, to Elizabeth Saunders, daughter of Robert J. Saunders; second, on April 5, 1864, to Louisa Eason; and third, on October 15, 1886, to Rebecca Robbins. He fathered at least nine children, the eldest of whom, Robert White, was Sheriff of Perquimans County from 1879 to 1887.

White was a merchant and farmer living in the town of Hertford in 1850. In that year, however, he began acquiring land north of Perquimans River. He was given a tract of seventy-six acres by his father-in-law Saunders on May 13; the land lay be-



tween the river and the main highway from Elizabeth City to Belvidere.

On August 11, 1851, White purchased from Henry White a tract of forty and one-tenth acres across the highway from the former tract. It adjoined the Joseph Spence farm, of which White bought fifty-five acres on June 9, 1853. He evidently moved from Hertford about this time.

From 1854 to 1862 White was part-

ner in the mercantile firm of W.R. Blanchard and Company. (For a time he courted one of Blanchard's daughters, who was quite relieved when he married someone else.) He had a store in the building in which he resided in 1873, and was listed in a business directory for 1878 as the operator of a general store. His second wife also ran a shop of some sort.

Josiah H. White began public service before February 1848, at which time he was elected Register of Deeds of Perquimans. He served three years and then because justice of the peace. In August 1861 he was appointed to the committee assisting needy families of soldiers. In November 1862 White was appointed Treasurer of Public Buildings, and his duties included oversight of the important bridge in Hertford. He served briefly as deputy superior

court clerk in 1868, and in January 1873 he became postmaster at Winfall, serving in the latter post until 1880.

Winfall, in fact, was laid out in part on land which had belonged to White, had he was owner of much of the town that was located on others men's contributions to the town site.

In 1878 White was again a magistrate, and in 1887 he (or his son and namesake) was appointed to the town council when Winfall was formally incorporated. From 1892 to 1894 he was Treasurer of Perquimans County.

The home of this father of Winfall still stands, although not on its original site.

Letter to the editor

Editor
The Perquimans Weekly,

On behalf of the Winfall Centennial Committee we would like to offer our thanks to the many individuals and businesses that helped to make the celebration of Winfall's first one-hundred years a tremendous success.

Saturday's celebration was a time of renewed acquaintance with old friends as well as a day to reflect on our wonderful history while we plan for the future.

While it is impossible to list everyone that helped to insure the success of the day, we would like to offer a special thank you to the following:

Mr. Larry Swindell of Swindell Funeral Home for the stone that marks the site of the Winfall Time Capsule, as well as for the loan of tents and

chairs for the event;

the Hertford Fife and Drums Corp for leading our procession to Central School;

Layden's Radio and T.V. for the loan of a public address system;

Emmett Landing for the loan of our stage;

Estelle Felton for special music provided;

the Reverend Willie Moore for leading in the invocation;

Mr. Tross White and Mrs. David Trueblood for the beautiful flowers in memory of their late husbands, both former mayors of Winfall.

Mr. Morris Kornegay, Principal of Perquimans Central School, for his help with the site of the festival and his input with the committee;

and the numerous other individuals

that manned booths, volunteered their time and talents, the civic organizations and any and all others who helped make our centennial celebration a success.

We would also like to offer a special thanks to our financial contributors, without whom we would have been unable to carry out our plans; while there is not room to list each of you in this limited space, please accept our

thanks for your part in the success of our celebration.

We would like to offer a special thanks to the Winfall Volunteer Fire Department, the Winfall Police Department, the Perquimans County Sheriff's department, the North Carolina Wildlife Commission, and the Perquimans County Jaycees.

Sincerely,
Cheryl Williams
Winfall Centennial Chairman

Looking back

20 YEARS AGO

Captain Cherry Visits Here: Captain Corbin Cherry and his family are visiting his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Cherry. Captain Cherry, Chaplain in the U.S. Army, has been hospitalized for some time at Walter Reed Hospital as a result of wounds requiring the amputation of his foot while in Vietnam.

Graduated From Southeastern Baptist Seminary: William Franklin Ainsley Jr., of Hertford has com-

pleted the requirements for graduation from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He will be awarded the Master of Divinity degree at the seminary commencement exercises on May 30. Ainsley, the son of Mr. and Mrs. W.F. Ainsley, Jr., who lives at 108 N. Covent Garden Street, is a graduate of Perquimans County High School and UNC at Chapel Hill. Ainsley is married to the former Mary Fennell of Burgaw, N.C.

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The news and editorial staff of the Perquimans Weekly would like you to tell us what kind of stories you like to see in the paper. If there is something or someone you feel is important — or some provocative issue you would like us to examine — please, let us know.

Just clip and fill out this coupon. Include as many details as possible (Names, addresses, telephone numbers, etc.)

It may not be possible for us to use some of the stories suggested but we are always looking for new ideas.

So, next time you think of something you feel would make a good story, send it to: News Coupon, Perquimans Weekly, P.O. Box 277, Hertford, N.C. 27944.

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COMMENTS:

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